

feeling, which comes over any one that breathes the atmosphere of the tunnel for some time, is due to their presence. A curious species of *Cantharellus* is not uncommon, it is of a brownish-yellow, tinged with a delicate green. In the dark corners behind the posts, bright yellow patches may be perceived; these are polyporei. A very pretty *Agaricus* (*Mycena*) is found at the foot of partly decayed posts, it grows on the dust which crumbles off. In a future paper I propose to deal more systematically with this subject.

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ART. III.—*Notes on the Occurrence of Glaciated Pebbles and Boulders in the so-called Mesozoic Conglomerate of Victoria.*

By E. J. DUNN, F.G.S.

[Read May 12, 1887.]

At Wooragee, near Beechworth, there occurs a conglomerate of peculiar character. In a base of fine clay are distributed in a heterogenous manner, well rounded pebbles and boulders of many varieties of schist, quartz-rock, sandstones, shales, granite, agate, jasper, porphyry, &c., and also angular and sub-angular fragments and masses of rock.

The approximate area of this conglomerate was communicated to the Mining Department in 1871. The depth is not known, but in the very early days of gold mining in this neighbourhood, a shaft was sunk 100 feet into it, at Magpie Swamp, without piercing the underlying rock. This conglomerate rests either upon granite or silurian beds. Outliers of similar conglomerate occur to the N.W. of El Dorado; at various points on the road between Wangaratta and Kilmore; and are also mentioned by Mr. R. A. F. Murray, in the Geological Survey Progress Report for 1884, as existing at Bacchus Marsh, at the Barrabool Hills, and in South Gippsland. In this report, a glacial origin is suggested, as best explaining the peculiarities of this conglomerate, but no distinct striations had been observed in the pebbles.

In New South Wales, what appears to be the same conglomerate, is described by Mr. C. S. Wilkinson, F.G.S., Government Geologist, and allusion is made to the great angular masses found in it, and a glacial origin also surmised, but no direct evidence was attained of striations.

Quite recently, while examining the conglomerate at Wooragee, I detected distinct striations on the boulders and pebbles, and also observed flat surfaces, and the peculiar fractures of the pebbles, so characteristic of conglomerates that have been formed through glacial action.

In South Africa, what appears to be the exact counterpart of this conglomerate, exists. It is known there as the Dwyka conglomerate, and it forms the base of a great system of fresh water strata. The lowest division of these beds is known as the Ecca beds or Lower Karroo beds. They are probably carbonaceous in the lower portion, and are characterised by an abundance of fossil wood (silicified), and by a *Glossopteris* that appears to be identical with the *Glossopteris Browniana* of New South Wales; also small sauroid remains. The second division is known as the Karroo beds, and best known for its richness in sauroid and other remains that have been so wonderfully worked out by Sir R. Owen. The third and newest division is known as the Stormberg beds, in the lower portion of which are the coal measures, and workable seams of coal. Associated with the coal seams, are shales thickly studded with fern impressions, among which *Sphenopteris Elongata*, *Pecopteris Odontopteroides*, *Cyclopteris Cuneata*, *Taeniopteris Daintreei*, &c., abound.

The glaciated nature of the conglomerate was established in South Africa in 1872, by the writer finding numerous examples of striated, grooved, and otherwise glaciated stones on the banks of the Orange River, but the full extent and the relations of this conglomerate to the Karroo beds was not fully worked out until last year, when my report on it was published by the Cape Government.

Sir R. Owen after having all the available fossil evidence before him, inclines to the view that the Karroo beds belong to the carboniferous period; if such is the case, the glacial conglomerate in South Africa must, at any rate, be palæozoic in age, and enquiry is suggested as to whether the Victorian conglomerate is not older than mesozoic.

Should the conglomerates on the two continents prove to be stratigraphically identical, they will furnish excellent bench-marks for working out the comparative geology of the two regions.

Examples of the striated stones from Wooragee, are placed in the Technological Museum for inspection.

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ART. IV.—*On the Fungi Growing in Mines.*

By HENRY THOS. TISDALL, F.L.S.

[Read May 12, 1887.]

PART II.

In accordance with my promise, I visited Walhalla during the Easter holidays, in order to secure some fresh specimens of Fungi from the Long Tunnel Mine. Mr. Ramsay Thomson, the manager, gave me every facility for exploring the mine ; but warned me that the fresh timber and increased ventilation would greatly impede, if not entirely destroy, my chances of success.

I arrived on Thursday afternoon, and as the next day would be a holiday, Good Friday, I was only allowed to visit number three level.

This tunnel was dry and very warm, and I found the managers assertion was quite correct ; for instead of having to stoop or almost crawl, as formerly, amongst half rotten timber, crushed down to less than three feet by the superincumbent rock masses, I found upright seven-foot posts supporting a good roof, the whole being well slabbed and made very comfortable for every one except myself, as, alas, fungi were apparently things of the past. After traversing nearly a thousand feet of the level, I was rewarded by finding a partly deserted nook, with roof and sides fairly covered with fungi. Hyphomycetes hung from the cap timbers, their fleecy masses taking innumerable shapes, the commonest being like a huge pear made of snow, hanging by a long thin dark stem. Amongst these I discovered a very pretty agaricus ; it hung from the roof by means of a number of fine thread-like fibres, springing from about the